

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-27. (Canceled).

28. (Currently Amended) An isolated antibody that specifically binds to a polypeptide ~~having an~~  
the amino acid sequence of which consists of a sequence at least [[60]]90% identical to SEQ ID  
NO: 2, wherein the polypeptide induces differentiation of an osteocyte.

29. (Currently Amended) An isolated antibody that specifically binds to a polypeptide the amino  
acid sequence of which consists ~~consisting of~~ SEQ ID NO: 2.

30. (Currently Amended) An isolated antibody that specifically binds to a polypeptide encoded  
by a first nucleic acid that hybridizes under stringent conditions (0.2 X SSC and 0.1% SDS at  
68 °C) to a second nucleic acid consisting of the antisense strand of the coding region of SEQ ID  
NO: 3, wherein the polypeptide induces differentiation of an osteocyte.

31-40. (Canceled)

41. (New) The isolated antibody of claim 28, wherein the amino acid sequence of the  
polypeptide is at least 95% identical to SEQ ID NO:2.

42. (New) The isolated antibody of claim 28, wherein the amino acid sequence of the  
polypeptide is at least 99% identical to SEQ ID NO:2.

43. (New) An isolated antibody that specifically binds to a polypeptide the amino acid sequence of which consists of SEQ ID NO: 2 containing up to 30 conservative amino acid substitutions, wherein the polypeptide induces differentiation of an osteoblast.

44. (New) The isolated antibody of claim 44, wherein the number of conservative amino acid substitutions is up to 15.

45. (New) The isolated antibody of claim 44, wherein the number of conservative amino acid substitutions is up to 5.

46. (New) The isolated antibody of claim 44, wherein the number of conservative amino acid substitutions is up to 3.

47. (New) An isolated antibody that specifically binds to the extracellular region of 7F4 (SEQ ID NO: 14).

48. (New) The isolated antibody of claim 30, wherein the first nucleic acid hybridizes along the full length of the second nucleic acid.